the General Manager's branch, it was found that a few old files were not readily traceable and a circular was issued in May, 1991 to make an attempt to locate these old files. After search majority of files were located and Super Bazar expects to locate remaining files from its different Departments in due course of time, when their work of review of files is completed. These files, being old files, are not expected to affect the current working of the Super Bazar. Since this exercise was done as a part of weeding out of records of the last 25 years and has to be seen as a normal part of office Administration. The circumstances do not call for any separate exercise to fix responsibility.

(c) Super Bazar Management has introduced a system of files maintenance since Sept., 89 and adherence to systematic review of files is also being emphasised.

2290. *[Transferred to the 20th March,* 1992]

**Population covered through Public Distribution System**

2291. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the prevailing sale price ot wheat and rice supplied to low socioeconomic Group through Public Distribution System in different States and the quantity supplied to each family;

(b) how many families are covered in each State; and

(c) the percentage of population covered through these schemes and the financial commitment to each State-wise details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE; IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL. SUP PLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBU TION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) The Central Government issues foodgrains (rice and wheat to State Governments/ U.T. Administrations for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS) including Integrated Tribal Development Project Areas (ITDP) at Central Issue Prices, which are as under:

| | *Rs. peiquintal For PDS* | *For [TDP* |
|---|---|---|
| *Rice* | | |
| Common | 377 | 327 |
| Fine | 437 | 387 |
| Super Fine | 458 | 408 |
| Wheat | 280 | 230 |

The above rates are effective from 28th December, 1991. The State Governments! U.T. Administrations have been requested that the end retail prices to consumers in ITDP areas should not exceed Rs. 251- per quintal over and above the Central Issue Prices. Most of the State Govern-ments and U.T. Administrations have fixed the ITDP and retail prices to consumers at the same rates as suggested by the Central Government. The quantities of foodgrains distributed under this programme are out of the total allocations made to the States for PDS and the State Governments [U.T. Administrations have been advised to earmark quantities based on the average off-take during October, November and December, 89 for distribution under the Scheme, at least.

The benefits of the scheme are meant for tribals and non-tribals living within the areas covered under the Scheme. The projected beneficiary population in 1991 is estimated to be of the order of seventy million The average annual total issues of wheat and rice under the scheme during the last five years were in the region of 2 million tonnes. The scheme involves additional subsidy of the order of Rs. 100 crores approx, per annum over and above the subsidy provided by the Central Govt, under the Public Distribution System (PDS).